MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Advocate General*) : The question does not arise.

PRESIDENT : Order, order. Honourable member cannot ask for the opinion of another honourable member whether on the Government Bench or elsewhere. The Governments opinion is based upon the work and status of the Union in question. We get letters from many people saying that a particular Union is not representative. I suppose honourable members might be shown some of those letters. For that reason Government came to the conclusion that the fact that a Union is a registered one cannot be considered an unalterable circumstance because every registered Union is not necessarily representative and further, most of them are repudiated by many people in the same locality.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI : May I know the criterion upon which representation is judged?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : There might be many organisations outside the Unions and so it cannot be said that a particular Union is representative in character. It is a matter of opinion whether it has to be considered as representative.

Import of yarn.

464. ***MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the name of the agent or agency employed to import the yarn allotted every month from British India; and

(*b*) the date on which this contract was fixed up with the terms of contract?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : (*a*) April 1945. Mr. R. Subbiah, Yarn Merchant, Chalai.

May

1. Mr. Ramasubbu Chettiar, Yarn Merchant, Kottar.
2. Mr. Muthuswamy, Yarn Merchant, Nagercoil.
3. Mr. Thanumalayan, Yarn Merchant, Balaramapuram.
4. Central Weavers & Co-operative Society, Ltd.
5. Mr. Anthoni Mudaliar, Yarn Merchant, Palliyadi.
6. Mr. S. Noorudheen, Yarn Merchant, Quilon.
7. Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim, Aiyoob Sait, Quilon.
8. Mr. R. Narayana Panicker, Yarn Merchant, Marthandom.

June & July.

1. Mr. P. Subramonian Chettiar, Yarn Merchant, Chalai.
2. Messrs. Seetharamier & Sons, Chalai

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3. Mr. K. Athoo, Yarn Merchant, Paravoor.
4. Mr. Mohamed Moideen Sahib, Yarn Merchant, Kottar.
5. Mr. Hajee Hassan, Yacoob Sait, Yarn Merchant, Kayamkulam.

(b) No contract is fixed. But each merchant is allowed to import 100 bales only.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: With reference to answer (b) may I take it that we were importing only 500 bales for the months of June and July ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: No Sir. Some of the merchants have not deposited the security amount nor have they entered into any agreements. So it was distributed to those five merchants for the present.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Are they importing more than 100 bales ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: There are five people who are doing this business now and there is a panel of twelve people selected for the purpose. As some of them are not able to pay the required security, the people who have already paid security are allowed to import.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: It is not about the people. May I know what the arrangement is for importing the whole quantity allotted from British India ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: 100 bales have been allotted to each merchant selected by us, by the Government.

PRESIDENT: The question is: what is the arrangement by which yarn comes into the State ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Yarn comes into the State in the following manner. We get a quota from the Provincial Textile Commissioner, Madras and we are also given directions to get the same from certain specified Mills. The quantities (of bales) to be obtained from each Mill is also specified. The Mills are being directed to give us our requirements, we select our merchants here and the merchants would contact the Mills and buy the given allotments.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Is it by the default of the other merchants that the Government were not able to import the remaining quantity of yarn allotted to Travancore ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Some times it happens so but we do not lose the quota. The quota not brought is allowed to be imported with the next consignment.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: I want the honourable member to say whether arrangements are being completed to import the whole quantity allowed from British India to Travancore ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Arrangements have been completed ?

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: Has the quantity come to Travancore ?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR: Some times we are not able to get the whole quantity.

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PRESIDENT : Order, order. The question is this. The honourable members may remember that originally, the yarn was purchased by the State and distributed by the State. At one stage it was found and the honourable members who have bestowed attention on this matter would also have realised—that Government had paid large sums in excess of the price and that the prices were coming down. The Government then had to dispose of the stock and make up their minds not to indulge in speculative transactions of that kind, because if they had purchased yarn themselves, and paid at a certain rate, the prices might have dropped and Government might have incurred much loss. Therefore, they came to the conclusion that they should use the ordinary trade channels and not give a monopoly to any group of people. A certain number of people are asked to give security; some give security and some do not, but as was pointed out, we do not lose the quota.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : It was not coming in time. That was the difficulty.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : Shall it be taken that in July, only 500 bales of yarn have been imported into the State?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : I have already answered that question. Out of a panel of 12 merchants five had executed agreements and deposited security and so they are alone allowed to import.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know whether these merchants are chosen as per applications made by them to the Government?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : They are in the first instance chosen by the Textile Commissioner and the list is submitted to Government and the Government will finally choose out of the panel proposed by the Textile Commissioner.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : That is not the answer to my question. May I know whether they are chosen as per the applications made by them before the Government?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : The Government of India have ordered that only those people who have got business from 1940-42 should be considered for the issuing of licences. That is taken into consideration when the merchants are asked to be our representatives to get the yarn.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : May I know from the honourable member whether there were any applications from merchants of North Travancore for the quota of yarn?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : Government are not aware of that, Sir.

MR. A. K. BHASKAR : May I know whether these 500 bales are imported by the Mill agents when the quota is in excess of the other quantity of yarn?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : There are nearly seven quota holders. They have got 500 bales allowed to them and in addition to that nearly a thousand bales are allowed under the All-India Yarn Scheme.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI : What have the Government done with regard to those people who have not imported yarn as per their agreement?

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MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : Action is taken against them as per the terms of agreement. They will lose their security amounts and they are given certain penalties. Further contracts will not also be given to them.

MR. P. O. THOMAS : Will the Government be pleased to sanction quotas to merchants in North Travancore in view to the fact that it will lighten the cost of the yarn to be distributed among the merchants in North Travancore?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : It will be considered provided they are entitled to it under the Rules.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : Will the Government consider the possibility of making efficient arrangements to get the quantity imported into Travancore and in distributing it to a number of people?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : Sometimes we are troubled on account of the shipping space and transport arrangements. We are given only a little time during which period we have to get the quantity and distribute it here. Barring such obstacles Government will try to get the entire quota and see to its proper distribution.

Agency for yarn distribution.

465. ***MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI :** Will the Government be pleased to state

(*a*) whether it is a fact that yarn has been entrusted to individuals for distribution ; and

(*b*) if so, what was the principle upon which it was given?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : (*a*) After the All India Yarn Distribution Scheme came into effect, distribution of yarn to weaving schools alone is being effected through individual merchants.

(*b*) Stocks are placed with merchants who supply yarn to weaving schools on chits issued by the Textile Assistant.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI : May I know whether any quantity of yarn has been handed over to individuals for distribution in taluks?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : Usually the Taluk Committees and the Co-operative Societies are distributing, but in certain cases, as it is stated in the answer itself, individual merchants are chosen and they distribute it to the weaving schools after getting permission from the Textile Commissioner or his Assistant who knows what their requirements are.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI : Are there not instances where individuals are entrusted with yarn not for distributing to weaving schools but for distribution in their respective areas?

MR. T. K. GOPALAN NAIR : There are no instances like that.

MR. S. SANKARANARAYANAN TAMPI : I challenge that statement.

PRESIDENT : If that challenge is conveyed in writing, the Government will go into the matter.

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